

# Metro MAWD Meeting Summary

*“Metro MAWD” is the Region 3 (Metro) Chapter of the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts*

**7:00 PM, Tuesday, January 21, 2020**

**Capitol Region Watershed District**

595 Aldine Street, St. Paul, MN

## **Attending:**

### **Board Members**

Jackie Anderson, Comfort Lake–Forest Lake  
Mary Texer, Capitol Region  
Rick Sanders, Capitol Region  
Mike Bradley, Rice Creek  
Bill Olson, Minnehaha Creek  
Sherry White, Minnehaha Creek  
Grace Sheely, Nine Mile  
John Waller, Rice Creek  
Joe Collins, Capitol Region  
Shawn Murphy, Capitol Region  
Arun Hejmadi, Minnehaha Creek  
Jill Crafton, Riley Purgatory Bluff Creek  
Pat Preiner, Rice Creek  
Marcie Weinandt, Rice Creek  
Michael Welch, Basset Creek Watershed Management Organization

### **Staff and Guests**

Emily Javens, Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts  
Mark Doneux, Capitol Region  
Nick Tomczik, Rice Creek  
Tim Kelley, Coon Creek  
Stephanie McNamara, Vadnais Lake WMO  
Doug Snyder, Mississippi WMO  
Laura Jester, Basset Creek  
Mike Isensee, Carnelian Marine St. Croix WD  
Kate Moran, Minnehaha Creek  
Dawn Tanner, Vadnais Lake WMO  
Kevin Bigalke, Board of Water and Soil Resources  
Judy Sventek, Met Council Environmental Services  
Wayne Cordes, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency  
Ryan Anderson, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency  
Brian Livingston, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency  
Harvey Kruger, Heron Lake/ Board of Water and Soil Resources Board  
Pam Blixt, Minnesota Clean Water Council

1. Call to Order, Mary Texer called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. Introductions were made of those in attendance.

## **II. Action Items**

### A. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Pat Preiner, seconded by Rick Sanders to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed.

### B. Approval of Meeting Summary for October 15, 2019

Motion by Jackie Anderson, seconded by Rick Sanders to approve the meeting summary as presented. Motion Passed.

### C. Elect 2020 Metro MAWD Chair

Motion by Pat Preiner, second by Sherri White to elect Mary Texer to Chair of Metro MAWD. Motion passed.

## **III. Special Reports**

A. Partnerships for Water Quality: MPCA Watershed Program, Brian Livingston, MPCA  
Brian Livingston provided an update on the MPCA partnership programs and highlighted key accomplishments and upcoming work. Questions and discussion from the audience included the issues of PFAS, Chlorides and the status of WRAPS round II.

### B. Watershed Based Implementation Funding Update, Kevin Bigalke, BWSR

Kevin Bigalke provided an overview of the process and concerns raised by MAWD. Mr. Bigalke of BWSR updated the group on the Watershed Based Implementation Funding. Mr. Bigalke reviewed the process over the last year. BWSR Board adopted the new policy on September 25th. The Local Government Water Roundtable asked that the word "implementation" be added to the policy. This was done by the BWSR Board. Watershed Strategic Planning Committee and Grants Policy Committee met to discuss and review. Mr. Bigalke noted that the new partnership will bring forward projects. Partnership get funding based on Watershed Management Plans. The prior allocation was on County basis and the 2020 process will be on a watershed alignment. BWSR will be responsible for convening partners. Mr. Bigalke noted that WMO/WD Plans and County Groundwater Plans will be eligible and BWSR is working to get annual SWCD Work Plans eligible. There was a discussion on annual SWCD work plan component of the is process. Questions and concerns were raised about the possibility of duplication of SWCD work plans the level of effort required of WMO/WD plans compared to SWCD annual work plans. MR. Bigalke noted that this is an interim process and the SWCD plans will require a public approval component. Attendees raised numerous questions about the level of detail and scrutiny of SWCD Annual Work Plans and the plans eligibility toward Watershed Based Implementation Funding.

C. MAWD Initiatives Update, Emily Javens

Emily Javens gave an Annual Meeting Recap and Legislative Session Preview

Agency and Association Updates

A. BWSR Update, Kevin Bigalke

Kevin provided an update on Clean Water Grants.

B. MPCA, Ryan Anderson

Mr. Anderson provide an update on the MPCA Stormwater Program. The update on the General Permit reissuance noted that the MPCA received 350 comments.

C. MAWA: Mark Doneux reported that administrators are assisting in providing recommendations for the annual MAWD conference.

General Information Sharing

A. A watershed district is invited to provide a “Show and Tell” presentation of a successful project or program at the next quarterly meeting;

B. Grace Sheely noted the importance of promoting deep-rooted grass seed in site stabilization, perhaps to be incorporated into watershed district project specifications or even permit requirements; she agreed to gather more information for future discussion.

Next Meeting: April 21, 2020, 7-9 p.m., 595 Aldine St., St. Paul

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Meeting summary prepared by Mark Doneux, Administrator, Capitol Region Watershed District